

CLAIMS:

1. A method for classification of a data object in a database, the data object having at least one source parameter associated therewith, by associating a classification parameter with the data object, wherein the classification parameter is associated with the data object when a value of the source parameter satisfies at least one criterion.

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2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the classification parameter is associated with the data object when the object is entered into the database.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the criterion is that the value of the 10 source parameter is within a predetermined range.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the source parameter represents a geographical location of the creation of the data object, and the criterion is that the value of the source parameter is such that the creation of the data object has taken place in a 15 predetermined region.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the criterion is that the value of the source parameter equals a predetermined value.

20 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the database comprises further data objects having at least one further source parameter associated therewith and wherein the method comprises the following steps:

identifying similar further data objects having at least one further classification parameter associated with each similar data object, wherein the further classification 25 parameters of the similar further data objects have equal values;

identifying similarity of values of the further source parameter of the further similar data objects having equal further classification parameters;

associating the further classification parameter with the data object when the data object is similar to the further data objects.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the value of the further classification parameter and the similarity as a criterion for associating a new data object with the further classification parameter with the value are stored in a further database.

5 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the method comprises the step of searching the further database to check whether the source parameter of the data object matches at least one criterion stored in the further database.

9. A method according to claim 6, wherein the value of the further source 10 parameter is an alphanumerical string and similarity is identified as the further source parameters having equal values.

10. A method according to claim 6, wherein the value of the further source parameter is a numerical value and the similarity is identified as the further source parameters 15 having their values in a predetermined range.

11. A method according to claim 3, wherein the source parameter represents at least one a of the following entities:

geographical location of the creation of the data object

20 date of creation of the data object

time of creation of the data object

name of the creator of the data object

data format of the data object

25 12. A method according to claim 1, wherein the classification parameter corresponds to an event.

13. A method according to claim 1, wherein the data objects are still picture images.

30 14. A method according to claim 1, wherein the data objects are streams of audiovisual information.

15. A method according to claim 1, wherein the classification parameter is associated with the data object by a user.

16. A method according to claim 1, wherein the criterion is stored in a further
5 database.

17. An apparatus for classification of a data object in a database, the data object having at least one source parameter associated therewith, the apparatus comprising a storage device for storing the database, means for receiving data objects and a central processing
10 unit, wherein the central processing unit is conceived to associate a classification parameter with the data object when the source parameter satisfies at least one criterion.

18. A computer-readable medium, comprising instructions, which are readable and executable by a computer, wherein the instructions enable a computer to execute the
15 method according to claim 1.